

Buy America... or Bye, Bye American Jobs.



We Need the Stimulus Here at Home

Opponents of Buy America provisions in the economic recovery package apparently are more interested in stimulating the economies of China and other nations than the economy here at home. Research shows that 33 percent more manufacturing jobs will be created by including domestic sourcing provisions. Without these provisions, those manufacturing jobs will go overseas, at U.S. taxpayers' expense. Congress must preserve Buy America rules in the economic recovery package to stop the tragic loss of jobs—manufacturing shed 800,000 jobs last year, 200,000 last month alone.

Buy America is an American Tradition

For over 70 years, the United States has had Buy America laws, beginning with the Buy American Act of 1933. Why? Because they guarantee we can build and rebuild our infrastructure with high-quality American-made materials. This isn't a trade issue... it's a jobs issue. That's why Ronald Reagan signed legislation expanding Buy America laws in 1982 in the midst of a recession, to spur employment.

Buy America Is Good for Trade

Domestic sourcing provisions in the economic recovery package ensure that the United States does not violate current trade agreements. No case has ever been won at the World Trade Organization (WTO) against Buy America laws. Russia, China, Japan, Brazil, South Korea, India, and France all have procurement practices stronger or more restrictive than ours. Why would we want to tilt the playing field farther away from our workers and businesses by eliminating Buy America?

Americans Overwhelmingly Support Buy America

In a survey by Harris Interactive, 84 percent of respondents favored including "Buy America" provisions, compared with only 4 percent who were strongly opposed. The American people—Democrats, Republicans and Independents—want their tax dollars to create jobs here at home.

Buy America Opponents Would Push Jobs Offshore

The outsourcing lobby has launched an attack on Buy America laws, which are normally applied to all major infrastructure expenditures. They join Buy America critics like China and Russia that seek to bail out their economies at the expense of American jobs. It's up to Congress to look out for our interests.

Congress, Do Right By Americans. Support Buy America.

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